(*b*) will the Government be pleased to improve the Kokkalai canal;

(*c*) if the answer to question (*b*) is in the negative, will the Government be pleased to state the grounds for rejection?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) and (*c*) The diversion of the Chalakkudi river to the kole area is a solution to make the canal navigable throughout the year. This is being investigated by the Government.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan: May I know when was this investigation begun?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon: The final investigation was started about two years ago. Combined investigations have to be conducted by the Travancore and the Cochin Governments and that is being done.

Mr. M. K. Devassy: When will this investigation be complete?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon: It will take at least two more years.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan: Will there be enough of water in the Chalakkudi river for our people to drink?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon: It is meant for the kole area.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim: Will the hon'ble member be pleased to inform the House as to how the response of the Travancore Government is with regard to this matter?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon: They have cooperated with this Government very heartily so far.

THANIKUDAM SCHEME—PROGRESS REGARDING.

44. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar**: Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) how far the Thanikudam scheme has progressed; and

(*b*) the total amount spent till now on it?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon: (*a*) The Trichur Municipal Council has now decided to take up the Naduthodu (Thanikudam) scheme of water supply to the town.

(*b*) A sum of Rs. 2,133—8—0 has so far been spent on it towards investigation and survey.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar: Are the Government satisfied that there will be plenty of water for supplying to the whole town of Trichur?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon: Yes.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar: After meeting the needs of the Trichur people, will there be more water for the use of agriculture?

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Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon: If the scheme is to supply water only to the town of Trichur, then a dam of 45 feet height is sufficient. If the dam of 45 feet height is constructed there will be no water available for other purposes. If on the other hand the height is increased to 75 feet there will be water enough for irrigation also.

TOBACCO SHOPS OF VELLARAPPILLY, CHENNAMANGALAM AND VADAVUCODE—AUCTION SALE—1113 AND 1114.

45. Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon: Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) what is the amount for which the tobacco shops of Vellarappilly, Chennamangalam and Vadavucode, were sold in auction for the years 1113 and 1114;

(2) on the basis of the total quantity of tobacco allowed to be imported into these tracts, what does the auction amount work out per pound of tobacco;

(3) whether the Government had received any petition from the inhabitants of Vellarapilly requesting that the 14 shops of that tract may be auctioned separately, and if any action was taken thereon?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar:

(1)

Tracts.	*Rentals for each of the years 1113 and 1114.*
	Rs.
Vellarapilly	7,285
Chennamangalam	3,310
Vadavucode	580

(2) Vellarapilly —One anna ten pies for one pound.
Chennamangalam—One anna do.
Vadavucode —Two annas eight pies do.

(3) Yes; The shops are invariably put up to auction one by one, but only when there are no bidders to offer reasonable rentals for some of the shops, they are sold *en bloc*. Even when this is done care is taken to see that the rentals fetched for each shop is higher than that offered by other people.

CARRIAGES AND ENGINES—STATE RAILWAY—PARTICULARS REGARDING.

46. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar: Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) do any of the carriages and engines running on our State Railway belong to our Government;

(*b*) if so, how many;

(*c*) have any of the carriages and engines been taken for rent or hire; if so, the number and the rate of hire;

(*d*) the total amount of hire paid last official year?

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